

Response to Office Action dated September 24, 2004.
Application No. 10/602,622
Attorney Docket No. FSF-031381

REMARKS

By the present Amendment, Claims 1 and 10 have been amended. Claims 11 and 12 have been cancelled. Support for the Amendment to Claim 1 can be found on page 77, line 18, of Applicants' Specification. Accordingly, as a result of the present Amendment, Claims 1-10 and 13-20 are currently pending in the present patent application.

Claims 1-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C.103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Ito and Ikari. Applicants have amended Claim 1 to specify that the organic polyhalogen compound is as shown in Formula H (support can be found on page 77 of Applicants' Specification). This formula is not taught or suggested by either Ito or Ikari. Moreover, as shown in the accompanying 1.132 declaration, the inclusion of the claimed polyhalogen compounds results in unexpected superiority regarding sensitivity, printout performance and fogging during storage. In light of the present Amendment, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 1-9 are now in condition for allowance.

Claims 10-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C.103(a) as being unpatentable over Ito. Applicants have amended Claim 10 to specify that the silver halide includes specific metal pairs (as previously recited in Claim 11). Ito fails to teach or suggest the

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use of these specific metal pairs. Moreover, Applicants submit herewith a 1.132 declaration demonstrating that use of the specific metal pairs results in unexpectedly superior effects regarding sensitivity, fogging and printout performance.

In view of the foregoing Amendment and Remarks and accompanying Declaration, it is submitted that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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